

Upcoming Events...
Galatians Class: Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.
Ladies Bible Class: June 3
Business Meeting: June 10
Father's Day: June 17
Barnabas Group Meeting: June 26

Being Responsible

"The right thing to do and the hard thing to do are usually the same." - Steve Maraboli -

"Eventually we all have to accept full and total responsibility for our actions, everything we have done, and have not done."
- Hubert Selby Jr. -

June Birthdays
9 Debbie Pescador 12 Celina Perales
June Anniversaries
5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman 9 Sue Tanner
11 Marcos & Celina Perales

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.
Sunday.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:
Mike McKnight

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A Child's Prayer?

By C.M.Callan

Most are familiar with the simple prayer that so many children learned at an early age.

*"Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep.
If I should die before I awake, I pray the Lord my soul to take"*

It seems to me that this prayer has a lot to say even in its simplicity. Without hesitation or modification, the words speak to trust in God for His ability to comfort and protect. It also speaks to God's power and majesty as it asks God for protection by saying He not only can but, will "keep my soul" while I rest. It is an admittance of our dependency and faith.

The prayer also speaks to the fragility of life and the ever-present reality of death, but not in a fearful way but as something that is inevitable. It is not fearful because God is waiting for us on the other side. The one praying also can see that God has prepared a place for those who are faithful, a place where we should want to be.

One who prays this prayer from the heart is demonstrating a definite mind-set. It depicts a person that has a fixed goal in life, a goal of being in heaven with our Lord when this life is over. The desire to go to heaven has to be the driving force we all need. When we set this as our goal and become determined to stay with it, then our actions on a daily basis will reflect our goal and show our trust in and love for God.

Could it be that part of our problem today is the fact that we have not taught our children this prayer, or any prayer? Would we "adults" do well to incorporate this prayer in our prayer life and mean it?

Forgetting the Shut-Ins

By Bob Spurlin

The composition of the Lord's church varies with those that are rich, poor, young, old, educated, uneducated, etc. The shut-ins are a special segment of the church and are rarely seen or heard. "Shut-in" is a term, which suggests a physical condition preventing them from being a part of the assembly. This is normally due to a state requiring full or part time care by professionals in a public facility, or family member(s) at home.

Shut-ins are generally seasoned and mature Christians who have given much during their life. We miss a rare opportunity in failing to meet and get better acquainted with the shut-ins. Such visits would give the shut-in enormous encouragement, and those making the visit will feel better about themselves.

Those living a shut-in existence will normally receive more visits during the holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas than any other time of the year. Shut-ins appreciate the visits, good will, and fruit baskets that are normally presented to us. However, there are twelve months in the year, and this special group would enjoy seeing you from time to time.

Visiting the sick or shut-in is a rare treat, and while I was engaged in my work as a gospel preacher these visits were particularly invigorating. Undeniably one gains far more from the shut-in than the shut-in could ever hope to gain from our visit.

How Much Time?

By James M. Allen

An honest and sincere answer to the question of "how much time do I have left" may just be one of the most important thoughts we could consider at this time. It might be of great benefit for us to switch our mind from the affairs of this life and think a little on the life that is to come. Calm and deliberate reflection on the next life may make a tremendous difference for us in that life. Consider:

1) We should realize that THERE IS MORE TIME ON THE OTHER SIDE OF LIFE THAN THE MIND OF MAN CAN FATHOM and that eternity stretches far beyond the time that we spend here on earth. Our time may be running out here but it will never run out in eternity. Actually, the clock is ticking for all of us but some have more time than others. It is certainly not wise to spend the balance of our time as if we were in endless summer. Time will run out at some point for every person.

2) We should realize that NO ONE KNOWS JUST HOW MUCH TIME REMAINS for us. It may run out today or tomorrow or perhaps years from now. We just do not know! Since I do not know how much time may remain on my calendar, is it not wise, then, for me to prepare myself for the next life.

3) We should realize HOW FINAL IT WILL BE WHEN OUR TIME DOES RUN OUT. Do not be deceived by false doctrine which would try to convince us that there is plenty of time left. Men admonish "to live it up because we only go around one time." How true it is that we only go around one time, but how foolish the advice to live it up. If we're "living it up" when our time runs out, then, unfortunately, we will have lost our soul. The risk is not worth it. As we leave this life, so will we be for all eternity.

4) We should realize that we ARE WRITING OUR LIFE'S HISTORY, page by page and day by day. We never know how many pages remain in our book. We certainly will want our last page and chapter to be our best. The wise person is prepared to close his book at any time. He looks for the end and the coming of the Lord.

5) We should realize the SERIOUSNESS OF BEING LOST IN ETERNITY. If we lose something here we may well have the opportunity to recover it. We may lose a five dollar bill and find another one just like it tomorrow, but this will not be true in regard to our soul. We have but one soul created in the image of God, so please let's not lose it!